

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 15 on page 8 with the following paragraph:

In another embodiment, the bearing surfaces are made from Iglidur X. This material, which originates from Messrs Igus of Cologne (Germany) has been surprisingly found to be very wear-resistant when used in an arrangement such as that of the present invention, particularly when the guide rods are made from stainless steel. ~~Iglidur~~ IGLIDUR X relates to a material in which the main constituent is a poly-ether-ether-ketone (PEEK), in which islets of a few tens of square micrometers in size are present, which islets contain a high concentration of fluorine atoms. The use of this material also provides very low wear even after many thousands of kilometers of sliding load, such wear typically being less than one tenth of a millimeter.

Please replace paragraph 30 on page 14 with the following paragraph:

On the inside, the housing 14 is provided with a bearing ring built up of the elements 17 to 21. This ring is made from the material ~~Iglidur~~ IGLIDUR X made by Messrs Igus, of Cologne (Germany). The ring comprises bearing surfaces 17 and 18, which surfaces are in sliding contact with a guide rod which is received

in the cavity which is defined by the bearing housing 14. These surfaces are supported by the housing 14 on a side remote from the guide rod. In this embodiment, the bearing area of the two bearing surfaces together is about 100 mm². The two bearing surfaces are situated at the top of the guide rod. The optimal location of these surfaces depends on the total forces to which the carriage is subjected during movement, particularly those forces which do not act on the center mass of the carriage. It is generally known how an optimal attitude can be calculated so that the risk of the bearing lifting is minimized. The element 19 is situated more deeply in the housing and when the bearing is in use will not make contact with the guide rod. Elements 20 and 21 do not lie deeper in the housing, but since there is no support on the side remote from the guide rod (these elements are bounded at the rear by a cavity in the bearing housing 14), these elements, just like element 19, cannot be used as a bearing surface. These elements serve only to give the bearing ring sufficient rigidity so that it can be mounted in the housing 14. The spaces situated more deeply between these elements 19, 20 and 21 and the bearing surfaces 17 and 18 serve to discharge worn material.